



Catherine B. Templeton, Director

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

September 30, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Gwen C. Thompson, Chief,
Bureau of Health Facilities Licensing

SUBJECT: Regulation Development for the Emerson Rose Act/Pulse Oximetry Testing on Newborns

The General Assembly passed the “Emerson Rose Act” (Section 44-37-70, [2013 Act 64, effective September 11, 2013]), which requires each birthing facility licensed by the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) to perform on every newborn in its care a pulse oximetry screening test or other department approved screening to detect critical congenital heart defects.

The Notice of Drafting (NOD) to propose a new regulation to implement the Emerson Rose Act was published in the *State Register* on September 27, 2013. DHEC proposes to promulgate regulations necessary to implement the best practices in screening, current scientific guidelines and recommendations, and advances in medical technology.

If you wish, you may submit written comments to Gwen C. Thompson, Chief, Bureau of Health Facilities Licensing, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29201. To be considered, all comments must be received no later than 5:00 PM, October 28, 2013, the close of the drafting comment period.

Your input is extremely valuable to us in writing the regulation. If you think something should be included or not included in the regulation, please send in your comments before the deadline.

Thank you for your input and participation. Please pass this information on to anyone else that may be interested in participating. If there are any questions about this process or other recommendations regarding the regulation process, please call Dave Fiorini at 803-545-4301 or me at 803-545-4670.

GCT/dnf